

Newsletter Seeds of Hope

Newsletter n°24 – January 2021



LEBANON – EGYPT – MOROCCO – IVORY COAST – VIETNAM – CONGO – LIBERIA

Review and perspectives

2020 was definitely a unique year for the whole world and for the Seeds of Hope program... All training centers have closed, and our teams had to quickly find solutions to maintain pedagogical continuity, often in difficult conditions. Every effort has been made to avoid school dropout and to maintain the positive impact of our program. Trainings on distance learning were provided to trainers, often unfamiliar with computer use. Facebook pages and WhatsApp groups were created to avoid the loss of contact with students during lockdown periods. A specific support has been provided to the most vulnerable students in order to help them pay school fees, mobile phone credit... and remedial courses were offered during summer.

In spite of this extreme slow-down of our activities, the Seeds of Hope program continues to expand to new countries (Congo Brazzaville, Liberia)!



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New countries, new sectors... Seeds of Hope is expanding!

A new dual training program in industrial maintenance

A new training program for two new training centers

IECD worked in 2019 on a project of dual training in industrial maintenance with the Mondi company and the Austrian development agency. In Morocco, the project will be launched in the CFA Bouskoura center (Casablanca), opened end-2019 in partnership with the local association l'Heure Joyeuse. In Ivory Coast, the project will be implemented as well in the new partner school of Koumassi (Abidjan).

Training program kick-off planned for beginning 2021 in Morocco

In Morocco, the work situation analysis, the professional frame of reference and the training program have been developed by an expert. The kick-off of the training program is planned for the beginning of 2021! A first pre-training (on general subjects and soft skills) was held from November 2019 to February 2020 with 38 youths. A second session was interrupted by lockdown and started over in October 2020 with 18 youths willing to integrate the dual training program afterwards.



Seeds of Hope expands to Congo Brazzaville!



Supporting Don Bosco center in Pointe-Noire

The Seeds of Hope program expanded this year to Congo Brazzaville! IECD will improve the automotive training program in the Don Bosco center of Pointe-Noire, and support the school on pedagogical aspects, guidance, employability and personal development of the youths. Therefore, the 270 new students enrolled this year will soon benefit from new activities to improve their training and their professional integration!

WORLDWIDE OVERVIEW

IVORY COAST

New electricity workshops in Abengourou

After almost two years of renovation work, the electricity workshops of the Abengourou training center were inaugurated in the presence of local and regional authorities. The trainers, helped by their students, did an amazing work for the electrical renovation and the result is excellent. These workshops are now the new reference for the Seeds of Hope program in Ivory Coast.



LEBANON

An emergency fund to support partner schools

Lebanon is going through a political, economic and sanitary crisis. As a result, an emergency fund was raised to support partner schools. Since April, four training centers are benefiting from a financial support to help them overcome the financial crisis and secure the start of next school year. Since mid-August, IECD is participating in the renovation work in partner schools damaged by the Beirut harbour blast, and energy audit and efficiency activities have been launched in Cortbawi school.

EGYPT

Computer training for teachers and administrative staff

In the summer 2020, the Seeds of Hope team delivered a Computer and Internet Skills training to 40 teachers and administrative staff in its 3 public partner schools. Each 5 days-training focused on digital literacy to enhance teachers knowledge of Microsoft Office and internet browsing. The training came as a direct response to the needs identified during the school closure to build teachers abilities, in a context of hybrid education.

VIETNAM

A pilot internship program

With the support of Schneider Electricity, Seeds of Hope and its partner schools launched a pilot internship program with 6 companies (3 in electricity, 3 in automotive). This program gives the opportunity to organize meetings between companies and schools to agree on the specific missions given to interns, in order to match the training program, and on a regular follow-up. A first group of 17 students participated in the pilot program from July on, and a second group of 18 students enrolled in August.



TO GO FURTHER...

IECD in close collaboration with the French Development Agency, supports the development of Liberia technical and vocational training national strategy. Seeds of Hope will be one of the first programs to be implemented by IECD, to support four schools in the strengthening of their training in electricity. IECD teams arrived in the country in September and started to coordinated with other development actors present in the country. For more information, click [here](#)